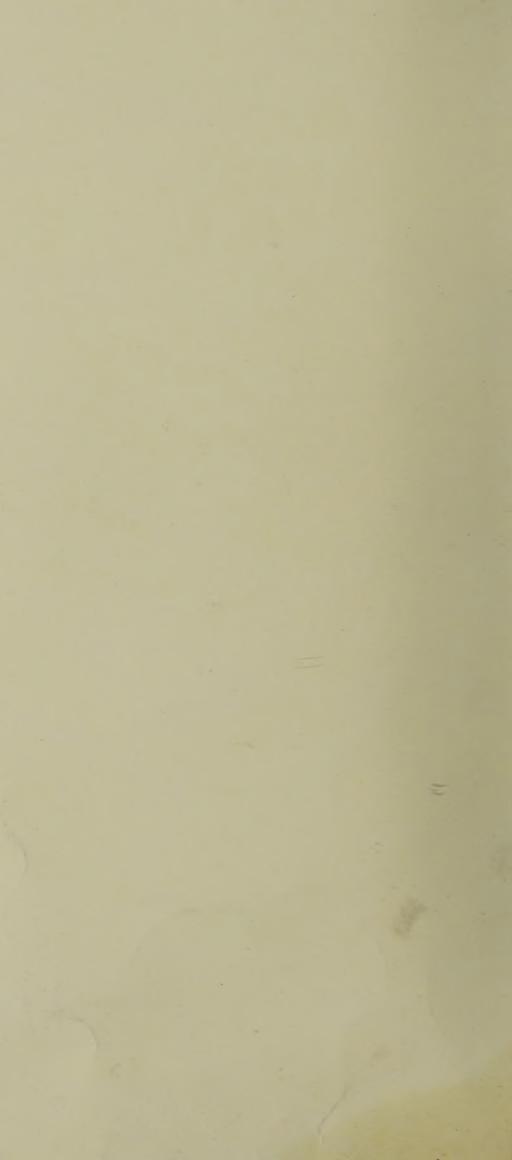
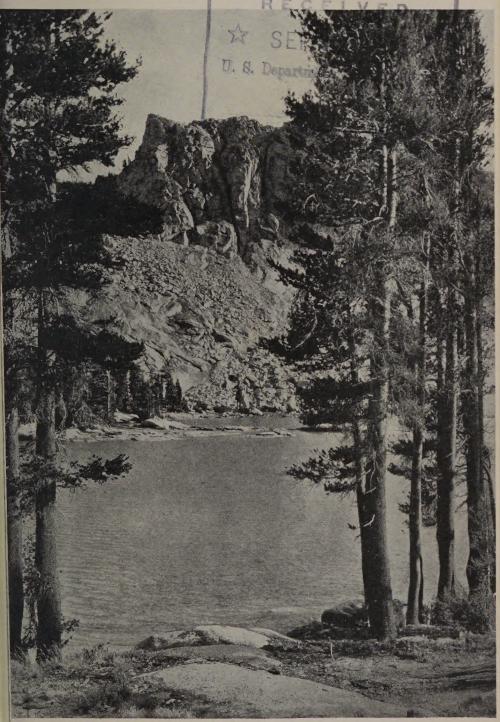
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SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST

CALIFORNIA



Devil's Punch Bowl, Sierra National Forest

F-193515

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA REGION



Everyone loses when the forests burn!

Left—On Forest Service timber-sale areas following the harvest the "forest farm" is left in condition to produce another crop of timber. F-239461

Play the Game, Observe the Rules, Save the Trees

Free Public Use of National Forests Is Invited

VISITORS to the Sierra National Forest are required to observe the following rules:

1. A campfire permit must be secured before building any fire, including fire in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline, on national forest land. The nearest forest officer will issue a permit to you without charge.

2. Every eamping party in the national forests must be equipped with a shovel and an ax per vehicle or pack train. Shovel, with blade at least 8 inches wide, and an over-all length of 36 inches; ax, not less than 26 inches long over all, with head weighing 2 pounds or more. Both of these tools must be in serviceable condition. All eamping parties will be expected to obtain these tools before entering the national forests.

3. During the fire season smoking is prohibited in the national forests, except in eamps, at places of habitation, in special posted areas, and above 7,000 feet elevation. Smokers must be eareful to extinguish their lighted matches, eigars, and eigarettes, and pipe heels. Watch for "No Smoking" and "Smoke Here" signs.

4. In periods of high fire hazard, eamping and camp or pienie fires may be restricted to posted camp grounds, and part or all of the national forest may be closed to public use and travel. Watch for "Closed Area" signs.

5. Build small fires. Clear an area, down to mineral soil, not less than 10 feet in diameter before starting a fire.

6. Never leave a fire without totally extinguishing it with a plentiful supply of water.

7. Keep your eamp elean. Where garbage pits and incinerators are not provided, burn or bury all garbage and refuse.

8. Do not pollute the springs, streams, or lakes by insanitary aets.

9. Observe the State fish and game laws. 10. Drive earefully on mountain roads.

Your cooperation in the enforcement of these regulations is requested



Fire is a destroyer. Timber, water, forage, wildlife, and recreation are all lost when forests burn.

Timber Is a Crop on These Forests

WHEN the national forests are considered as "farms" on which the main crop is timber, the problem of their administration is more clearly understood. In addition to the chief resource, there is also water and forage—and recreation.

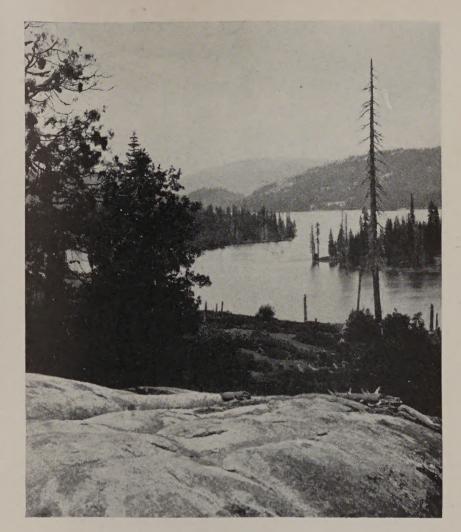
Under proper management the mature or ripened crops on these areas are harvested in such manner that a sustained yield is obtained. Through study, experimentation, and good practices increased yields may be provided.

The citizens of the United States are the owners of the national forests; the officers in charge are the managers for the people. The purposes in their administration are to insure a perpetual supply of timber, to preserve the cover which regulates the flow of streams, and to provide for use of all the resources in ways that will make them of largest service, meaning of most benefit to the greatest number in the long run.

The beginning of these forest farms of ours dates back to 1891. Congress in that year authorized the President to set aside "forest reserves" in order to protect the remaining timber on the public domain from destruction and to insure a regular flow of water in the streams. Defects in the original law were largely removed in 1897, and a system of organization and management was outlined.

In 1907 the reserves became the national forests to indicate that their resources are not locked up for a distant future. Now there are about 160 of them. Their total net area is approximately 170,000,000 acres scattered throughout 37 States or Territories from Maine to California, Puerto Rico to Alaska. If they could be consolidated, the total land area would be more than one and one-half times the size of the State of California.

Fire is the greatest single problem of forestry in America. The role of fire is that of a destroyer. At the call of fire the forest officer must drop all other work to combat an evil that may utterly destroy the forest crops, sometimes for centuries. Every fire whether large or small exacts its toll of damage in proportion to its size and intensity.



Nestling among the high mountains of the Sierra National Forest is Shaver Lake.

The seriousness of forest fires may be realized when they are considered as the cause of a \$450,000,000 yearly waste, or enough to build 150,000 moderatepriced homes. The cost of fighting fires, the burning of organic matter of the soil, soil erosion, floods, and stricken communities must also be considered in figuring losses.

Nowhere in the United States is the fire risk greater than in the State of California. The long summer drought, the increasing use of our mountains for recreation, and the amount of inflammable material on the ground present extreme hazards where one spark may expand to a devastating conflagration. And in no State are the resources of the forest more essential to the continued prosperity of a people.

There are 18 national forests in California, comprising approximately one-fifth of the total land area of the State. This huge empire is dedicated to public service, is owned by you and your neighbors and the rest of us—the public. If protected from fire, this area is destined to fulfill the highest objectives of forestry. That protection is as much your responsibility as it is your neighbors'.



Nellie Lake near Huntington Lake in the Sierra National Forest.

F-218633

This Is the Sierra National Forest in California

THE Sierra National Forest, rich in timber, water, forage, and recreational resources, covers a total area of 1,653,775 acres of mountainous country, of which 136,474 acres is privately owned and 1,517,301 acres is Government land. This forest averages 56 miles in length and 44 miles in width, and extends from the Merced River, on the north to Kings River and the Monarch Divide on the south. The western boundary lies in the timbered foothills bordering the San Joaquin Valley; the eastern boundary is the crest of the Sierra Nevada, which attains a maximum elevation of 14,254 feet within the Sierra Forest.

During the periods of greatest fire hazard a large number of forest guards are stationed at strategic points throughout the forest.

Forest officers are at all times glad to give information and otherwise assist the public insofar as their regular duties permit.

National forests are administered by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The headquarters of the forest supervisor of the Sierra National Forest is at Northfork, Madera County, Calif. District ranger headquarters are located as follows:

| District | Headquarters | Post Office | District | Head quarters | Post Office |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Mariposa | Miami | Nipinnawasee. | Kings River | Dinkey | Dinkey Creek. |
| Northfork | Northfork | Northfork. | Minaret | Red's Meadow | Mammoth Lakes. |
| Pineridge | Big Creek | Big Creek. | High Sierra | -High Sierra Ranger Station | Lakeshore. |

Roads and Trails

The main automobile roads of the forest and the approximate mileage between the principal travel points are as follows:

| Starting point Forest destination and route | Miles |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| FresnoTrimmer | 40 |
| FresnoHuntington Lake, via Tollhouse | _ 68 |
| FresnoHuntington Lake, via Auberry | _ 72 |
| FresnoFlorence Lake | _ 95 |
| FresnoNorthfork, via O'Neals | 49 |
| FresnoBass Lake, via O'Neals | _ 53 |
| FresnoWawona, via Coarsegold | 78 |
| MercedWawona, via Miami | _ 73 |
| MercedWawona, via Chowchilla Mountain | _ 67 |

Daily stage service during the summer season is maintained between all these points except Fresno and Trimmer, between which the stage runs only three times a week.

Florence Lake and the recreational region east from Huntington Lake are now accessible by automobile over the Florence Lake road. This road was built by the Southern California Edison Company for the construction and maintenance of its hydroelectric projects, but has been opened for public use. Starting at 7,000 feet from the east end of Huntington Lake, the road reaches an elevation of 9,300 feet at Kaiser Pass, traverses a region of exceptional scenic beauty, and ends at Florence Lake, 20 miles distant, elevation 7,400 feet, the waters of which are impounded by a multiple-arch dam, 3,100 feet long.

The Mono Hot Springs on this road have high medicinal value and are developed for free public use. Adequate camp grounds are adjacent to these springs.



This sawmill is one of the mills that manufactures the timber crop of the Sierra National Forest into lumber.



This hydroelectric power house and three other plants owned by the same company and located on the San Joaquin River generate 493,200 horsepower, which is transmitted at 220,000 volts to Los Angeles, a distance of 241 miles.—Photo by Myron Glenn.

The Forest Service cooperates with Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa Counties in the maintenance of approximately 1,000 miles of secondary roads. These roads, as well as the main roads, are essential to the protection and administration of the forest resources. Over 1,200 miles of Government trails are also maintained for the same purpose. Both the trails and the roads are open to the public. Occasionally, during periods of extreme drought, it is found necessary, as a fire-prevention measure, to close to general travel certain forest roads and trails traversing areas of especially high fire hazard.

Resources of the Sierra

The Forest Service is endeavoring to bring about the maximum use of all the resources of the national forests. This is consistent with its basic policy of "the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run." Every user of the forests should realize his individual responsibility to help prevent forest fires, avoid the pollution of streams, and observe the forest laws.



The Sierra National Forest annually provides sufficient summer forage for 14,000 cattle and 25,000 sheep.

Timber Value Is High

Timber is the most important resource of the Sierra National Forest. The estimated volume of the total stand is approximately 13 billion feet—the largest quantity of timber in any national forest in California. It is conservatively valued at \$25,000,000 on the stump. This represents the capital on hand. The annual growth, or interest on this capital, is 140,000,000 board feet, worth approximately \$315,000 at present stumpage prices. Out of this annual increase the requirements of a modern sawmill plant with a capacity of 100,000,000 board feet a year could be supplied indefinitely. Manufactured into lumber, this quantity of wood is enough to construct 12,500 six-room bungalows. The harvesting, manufacture, and distribution of this yearly forest crop would give steady employment to 15,000 men. About onetwentieth of this annual yield is now being sold and utilized.

The value of the timber resource of the Sierra Forest does not, however, end here. By retarding the run-off of the rain and snow, timber, as a cover crop on the Sierra watersheds, provides domestic water supplies for cities and towns, furnishes power and irrigation water, protects wildlife, and clothes the mountains with the wealth of foliage which adds so much to their beauty.

Water for Many Uses

It is no figure of speech to say that the development and utilization of water has converted many parts of California from deserts to garden spots of plenty. As agricultural settlement progresses, as towns are founded and cities rise to prominence, adequate water for domestic uses and for power and irrigation will be increasingly necessary to the continued development of the State.

Of paramount importance and economic value in the program of conservation and storage of water are the brush- and timber-covered watersheds of the Sierra Forest.

The main headwaters of the San Joaquin River and more than half of the drainage of the Kings River lie within the boundaries of the Sierra National Forest, and engineers have estimated that this forest could provide sufficient water to irrigate one million acres. Its hydroelectric plants now furnish 600,000 horse-power and will ultimately develop more than 2 million horsepower, or over 15 percent of the total potential hydroelectric power of the State. These figures indicate the value and necessity of this water resource, and justify any reasonable control that will safeguard and regulate stream flow.

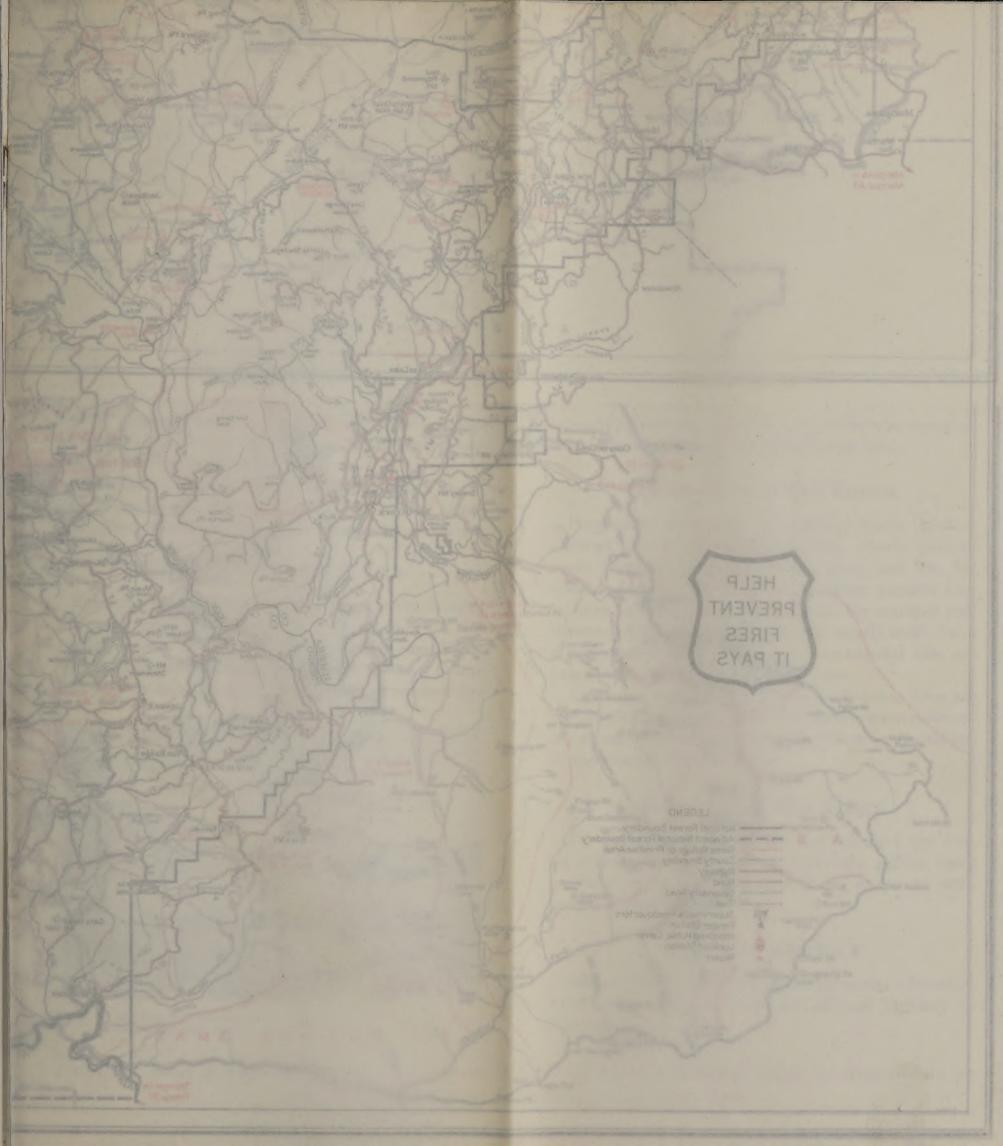
Forage in the Forest

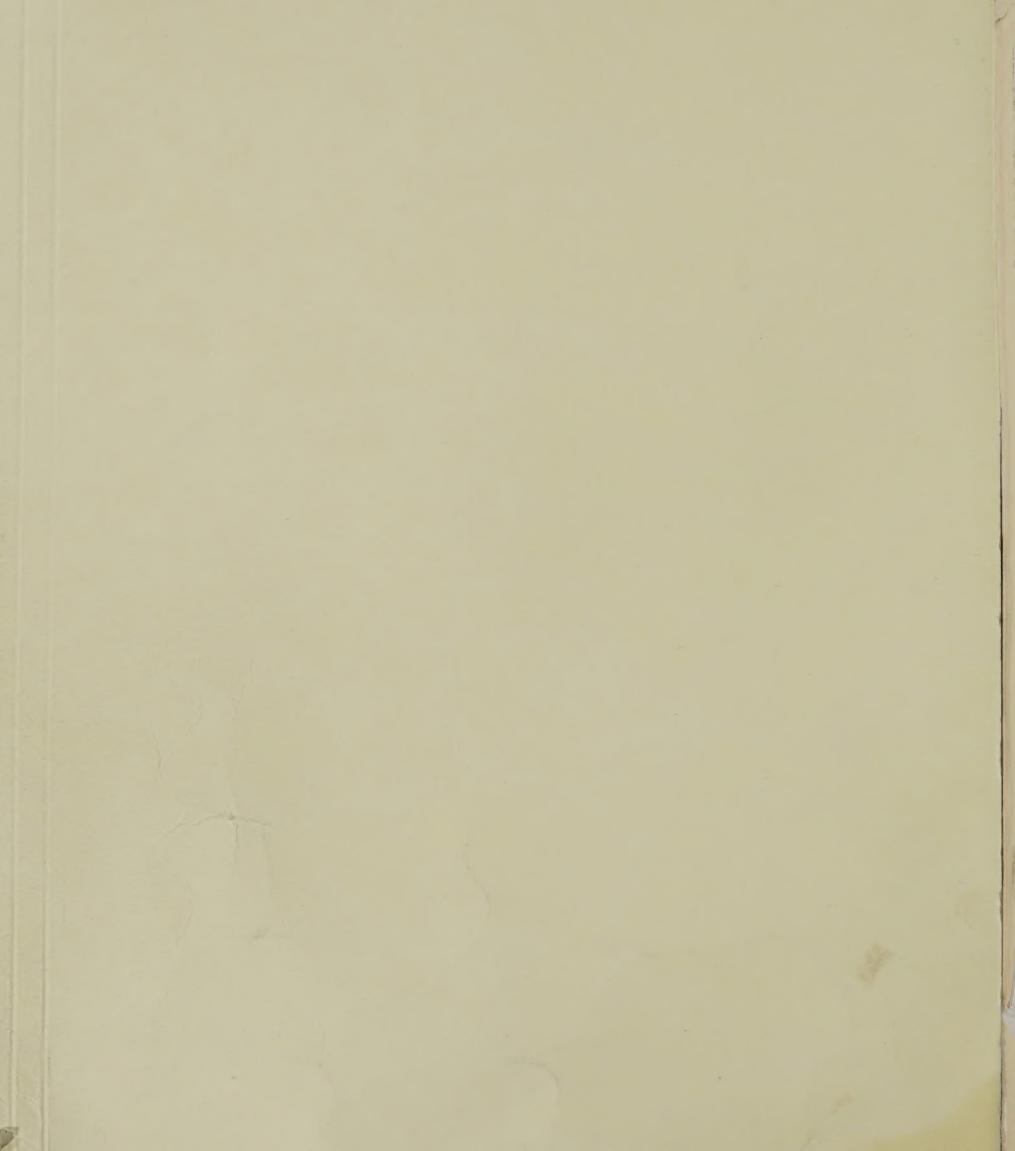
More than half of the Sierra National Forest, or 853,650 acres, has large grazing values. Sufficient forage is produced by these lands to provide feed for 14,000 cattle and 25,000 sheep during the summer grazing season. From the stock that are now grazed on this forest about 2,000 tons of beef, 800 tons of mutton, and 75 tons of wool are marketed annually. A conservative estimate of the value of these products is half a million dollars.

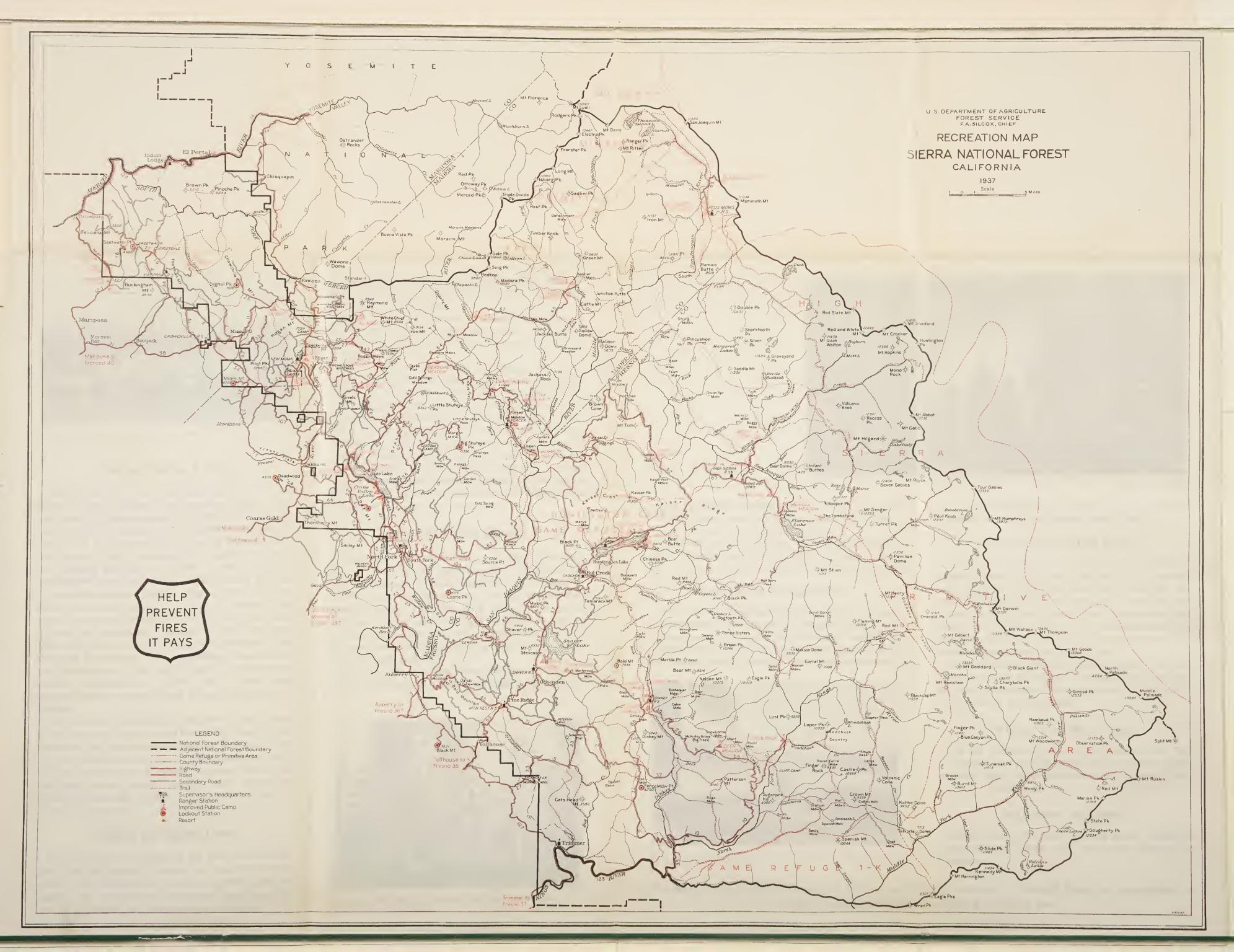
It is the policy of the Forest Service to permit as many individuals as possible to share in the utiliza-



Sites for summer homes in the Sierra National Forest may be rented from the Forest Service for \$15 a year.









Bass Lake from the falls.



Monument to Charles H. Shinn, former supervisor of the Sierra Forest. Mount Shinn (11,013 feet) is in the distance.

Oliver Creek.—One acre; elevation, 3,000 feet; at Chowehilla Station on Mariposa-Wawona road.

Chowchilla Creek.—Small; elevation, 4,500 feet; on Chowehilla Mountain road at Chowehilla Creek.

Summit Camp.—Four aeres; elevation, 5,500 feet; at junction Chowehilla Mountain and Signal Peak roads.

Miami.—Two and one-half aeres; elevation, 4,700 feet; junction Oakhurst-Wawona and Miami roads.

Soquel.—Four aeres; elevation, 5,000 feet; on lower Soquel Meadow.

Keltie Meadow.—Three aeres; elevation, 5,700 feet. Big Sandy.—One acre; elevation, 5,300 feet; where Fish Camp-Keltie road crosses Big Creek.

Mount Raymond.—Small; elevation, 7,000 feet; at end of Mount Raymond road.

Owl Creek.—Small; elevation, 4,000 feet; on Owl Creek 2½ miles from Mariposa Station on Footman Ridge road.

NORTHFORK DISTRICT

Bass Lake Camp Grounds.—Seven small camp grounds; elevation, 3,000 feet; fronting Bass Lake on west shore; stores convenient.

Beasore Meadow.—Two acres; with 20-acre feneed pasture for horses. Inquire Beasore Meadow; elevation, 7,000 feet.

Cascadel.—Small; elevation, 3,500 feet; 4½ miles east of Northfork on Whiskey Creek. Inquire at forest headquarters in Northfork.

Cold Spring.—Small; elevation, 7,500 feet; on Bass Lake-Beasore Meadow road.

Island Camp.—Three aeres; elevation, 2,700 feet; on South Fork Creek; early season eamp ground. Inquire Northfork headquarters.

Manzanita Lake.—Three aeres; elevation, 2,800 feet; Northfork-Bass Lake road; fronting Manzanita Lake.

Upper Chiquito.—Elevation, 7,000 feet; on Clover Meadow road 6 miles east of Beasore Meadow.

Lower Chiquito.—Small; elevation, 5,000 feet; on Chiquito road.

Placer.—Small; elevation, 4,000 feet; at Placer Ranger Station; pasture for horses.

Mammoth Pool.—Elevation 3,000 feet; 4 miles east of Placer Ranger Station; ½ mile from Mammoth Pool on San Joaquin River.

Northfork.—Small; elevation, 2,600 feet; ½ mile east of Northfork on Northfork Creek.

The Falls.—Two aeres; elevation, 3,000 feet; north shore Bass Lake; near store and resorts.

MINARETS DISTRICT

Clover Meadow.—Three aeres; elevation, 7,200 feet; on Bass Lake-Granite Creek road near Clover Meadow Ranger Station.

Granite Creek.—Two aeres; elevation, 7,100 feet; end of Bass Lake-Granite Creek Road.

Graveyard Meadow.—Small; elevation, 5,000 feet: Bass Lake-Granite Creek road; 1 mile beyond Jackass Meadow; turn right 3 miles by trail.

Jackass Meadow.—Four aeres, with 12 aeres feneed pasture for horses; elevation, 6,500 feet; at Jackass Meadow on Bass Lake-Granite Creek road.

Miller Meadow.—Small; elevation, 6,100 feet; on Bass Lake-Granite Creek road; 2 miles south of Clover Meadow Ranger Station. Red's Meadow.—Three acres; elevation, 7,500 feet; natural hot baths; at end of San Joaquin River road; 15 miles west of Mammoth Lakes P. O., Inyo National Forest.

Soda Springs.—Three acres; elevation, 7,400 fcet; at Devil Postpile; 15 miles west of Mammoth Lakes by road.

Soldier Meadow.—Small; with 15 acres fenced pasture for horses; elevation, 7,300 feet; from end of Bass Lake-Granite Creek road; 1 mile by trail.

Pumice Flat.—Elevation, 7,500 feet; on San Joaquin River; 13 miles west of Mammoth Lakes P. O., Inyo National Forest, by road.

Minaret Falls.—Elevation, 7,500 fect; on San Joaquin River; 14 miles west of Mammoth Lakes P. O., Inyo National Forest, by road.

PINERIDGE DISTRICT

Big Creek.—Small: elevation, 5,000 feet; Fresno Lakes Highway to Big Creek; eamp located at west end of town.

Billy Creek and Deer Creek.—Two large eamp grounds fronting Huntington Lake on north shore; on Fresno Lakes Highway; stores, post offices, resorts, and packers located at convenient distances.

Swanson.—Small; elevation, 5,700 feet; on Fresno-Dinkey road.

Rancheria.—Large; fronting Huntington Lake on east shore; take Fresno Lakes Highway to east end of Huntington Lake, thence by Forest Service road to camp ground; stores, post offices, resorts, and packers within convenient distances.

Sample Meadow.—Large; elevation, 7,800 feet; on Kaiser Creek; take Fresno Lakes Highway and Florence Lake road to Tennessee Point; thence 3 miles by Forest Service road.

Snow Bend.—Small; elevation, 7,900 feet; on Florence Lake road several miles beyond east end of Huntington Lake.

West Kaiser.—Small; elevation, 4,600 fect; take Fresno Lakes Highway and Florence Lake road to Tennessee Point, thence 22 miles by Forest Service road.

HIGH SIERRA DISTRICT

Florence Lake.—Large; elevation, 7,300 feet; at Jackass Meadow.

Mono Creek.—Small; elevation, 7,100 feet; on Mono Creek, 3 miles north of Mono Hot Springs.



Italian Bar Bridge in the Sterra National Forest.



Headquarters fire suppression squad, Northfork, Sierra National Forest.

Mono Hot Springs.—Six acres; elevation, 6,500 feet; 18 miles northeast of Huntington Lake and 2 miles off Florence Lake road; camp ground has free hot medicinal baths.

Ward Lake.—Small; elevation, 7,300 feet; $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Florence Lake on Florence Lake road.

KINGS RIVER DISTRICT

Black Rock.—Small; elevation, 4,500 feet on North Fork of Kings River road at Black Rock dam.

Kings River.—Seven aeres; elevation, 675 feet; Kings River road; fronting Kings River, 2 miles south of Trimmer.

Coolidge Meadow.—Small; elevation, 6,500 feet; at end of North Fork of Kings River road. Commercial packer near.

Lower Dinkey.—Forty acres; elevation, 5,500 feet; via Dinkey Creek road, 1½ miles below Dinkey Ranger Station. Store, resort, post office, and packers near.



Pine Flat.—Fifteen acres; elevation, 650 feet; Kings River road; fronting Kings River at Pine Flat.

Upper Dinkey.—One hundred acres; elevation, 5,800 feet; via Dinkey Creek road. Store, post office, resort, and packers near.

Laurel Creek.—Small; elevation, 6,000 feet; 4 miles from Dinkey Creek on road from Dinkey to North Fork of Kings River.

Buck Meadow.—Small; elevation, 7,000 feet; 10 miles from Dinkey on road from Dinkey to North Fork of Kings River.

Primitive Forest Areas

To preserve in their wilderness state typical mountain and forest areas in California, the Forest Service has set apart tracts of national forest land as "primitive areas" for the use and enjoyment of all the people. Such areas will be preserved in a "wild" state in the sense that they will not be developed by road building or other forms of permanent recreational occupancy. Grazing of livestock will be permitted; and, when economic conditions warrant, the orderly utilization of timber, water power, and other resources may be allowed. Two such "primitive areas" have been established in the Sierra National Forest, as follows:

Dana-Minarets Primitive Area, embracing 87,140 acres in Sierra and Mono National Forests, and extending from Tioga Pass southward to the Devil Postpile National Monument. This area includes the celebrated Minarets, Thousand Island Lake, and Shadow Lake country.



Devil Postpile National Monument. This weird basaltic rock formation is a counterpart of the Giant's Causeway of Ireland.

F-200615

High Sierra Primitive Area, containing 697,500 acres in the Sierra, Inyo, and Sequoia National Forests, and extending along the crest of the High Sierra from the Mammoth Lakes southward to Mount Whitney (14,495 feet), the highest peak in continental United States. This is a region of rugged snow-capped mountains, traversed in part by the John Muir trail, and is one of the outstanding wilderness areas in the West.

The Devil Postpile

The famous area which contains the peculiar basaltic postlike formations from which the Devil Postpile National Monument takes its name is located in the extreme northeastern part of the Sierra National Forest.

It covers an area of about 800 acres and is administered by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. The monument is most easily reached by road from Mammoth in the Inyo National Forest.

A short distance from the Devil Postpile National



The Sierra National Forest offers a fine opportunity for the enjoyment of winter sports.—Photo by Myron Glenn.

Monument is Rainbow Falls, where the waters of the San Joaquin River plunge 80 feet over a cliff into the misty pools below.

Outing in the Mountains

The principal entrance to the Sierra National Forest is through the San Joaquin Valley by way of Fresno, Madera, Merced, or Mariposa. Roads in the forest are usually in excellent condition during the summer. At central points along the main routes of travel are located many attractive resorts and public camp grounds.

Except for a steep, narrow road from Mammoth Lakes to the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River near the Devil Postpile, the extremely rough and mountainous portions of the High Sierra, where many peaks rise to more than 14,000 feet, have so far resisted the advance of the automobile. This is one of the few remaining "wilderness" regions of America, where the traveler must go on foot or with saddle horse and pack train as did the pioneers of early days. Visitors desiring to make a trip into this high moun-



tain country can secure pack and saddle horses and experienced guides from commercial packers.

Wildlife and Fish

Deer is the principal big game animal. It is estimated that there are at least 20,000 deer on the Sierra Forest. Black and brown bear, mountain lions, and the smaller fur-bearing animals are fairly plentiful.

The watershed on the north side of the Middle Fork of Kings River between Tombstone and the mouth of the North Fork of Kings River has been set aside by the State as a breeding ground for deer and is known as Game Refuge 1–K. Hunting within this refuge is prohibited.

The Huntington Lake State Game Refuge, covering 39,000 acres surrounding Huntington Lake, was created in 1931 for the protection, conservation, and propagation of wildlife. Firearms may be possessed legally within the refuge, but may not be discharged for any reason whatsoever. Game killed outside the boundaries of the refuge may be possessed within.

There are 600 miles of streams and many lakes within the Sierra Forest well stocked with trout, and other lakes and streams are being stocked as rapidly as possible by the Forest Service, working in cooperation with the State Division of Fish and Game, sportsmen's clubs, etc. Many lakes heretofore barren of fish are being stocked exclusively with golden trout, which is native to the High Sierra.

If You Don't Know—Ask the U. S. Forest Ranger!

Visitors in the Forest

National forests are the outdoor playgrounds for increasing millions of persons. The Sierra National Forest has, of course, shared in this popularity.

In the 10-year period ending with 1936 the number of persons passing through the Sierra increased from approximately 172,000 to more than 500,000 annually. Similarly, the figures on all of the national forests show an increase of from about 3 million in 1917 to more than 71 million in 1936. The figures, of course, include "repeaters."

Campers, sportsmen, and seekers of health, rest, and other forms of recreation find great pleasure in the natural out-of-doors environment that the forests afford. All enjoy the quiet beauty of placid lakes and wandering streams, the frontier flavor of the trackless wilderness, the murmur of rushing streams or waterfalls, and the scent of pine, fir, and balsam. The officers who administer the forest welcome visitors. All they ask is that the visitors observe the rules, look to the proper sanitation of their camps, and be careful with fires.



What to do When Lost

A clear head will find itself. If every one remembered this there would be fewer reports of persons lost in the mountains and forests. Loss of mental control is more serious than lack of food, water, or clothing. The man who keeps his head has the best chance to come through in safety.

The following helpful rules are worth remembering:

- 1. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
- 2. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered spot. Build a fire in a safe place. Gather plenty of dry fuel.
- 3. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill. Follow watercourses or ridges.
- 4. If injured, choose a cleared spot on a promontory and make a signal smoke. The Forest Service fire lookouts or the observers in airplanes may see your smoke.
 - 5. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry, and DON'T QUIT.

A word from the forest rangers to the new camper, hiker, or vacationist:

It is better to carry a clear head on your shoulders than a big pack on your back. Yet in going alone into the mountains it is well to go prepared for any emergency. A fish line and a few hooks, matches in a waterproof box, a compass, a little concentrated food, and a strong knife should always be carried. A gun may help as a signal, seldom for obtaining food. Above all, keep cool, and the chances are you will come out of the woods on your own feet.

Good Manners in the Forest

A good sportsman, camper, or tourist, when he goes into the national forests—

First obtains a campfire permit.

Carries a shovel and ax.

Smokes only in camp.

Puts his fire dead out with water.

Leaves a clean and sanitary camp.

Observes the State fish and game laws.

Cooperates with the forest rangers in reporting and suppressing fires.

Preaches what he practices.

DO YOU?



SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST

CALIFORNIA



Rainbow Falls, Sierra National Forest

F-5878A



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